

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Christophe Desard

Serial No.: 10/634,300

Filed: Aug. 5, 2003

Docket No.: 57474US013

Title: SEALED AND ADAPTABLE CABLE BUSHING WITH EASY CABLE POSITIONING AND
SLEEVE EQUIPPED WITH SUCH A BUSHING

IN THE CLAIMS

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A cable bushing intended to close off, in a sealed way, a space around one or more cables within a sleeve having a first side and a second side, said bushing comprising:

a first compression part intended to be positioned towards the first side of the sleeve;

a second compression part, offset in a longitudinal direction from the first compression part and intended to be positioned toward the second side of the sleeve;

at least one opening in said first compression part and at least one corresponding opening in said second compression part, each of said at least one opening in said first compression part ~~being intended,~~ together with said at least one corresponding opening in said second compression part, configured for a respective cable to pass through;

sealing means located between said first compression part and said second compression part; and

compression means for moving said first compression part and said second compression part towards one another in the longitudinal direction to compress said sealing means;

wherein said first compression part and said second compression part each comprise, ~~for each of said at least one openings therein, at least one~~ a separately movable piece associated with each single respective opening therein, that is wherein each separately movable piece is movable to provide access individually to said single respective opening.

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2. (Currently Amended) A cable bushing according to claim 1, wherein said first compression part comprises a plurality of said openings; wherein said second compression part comprises a plurality of said corresponding openings; and wherein said first and second compression part each comprise a plurality of said individually moveable pieces to provide access to said respective openings.

3. (Currently Amended) A cable bushing according to claim 2, wherein each of said individually movable pieces of said first compression part lies longitudinally facing a respective individually movable piece of said second compression part.

4. (Currently Amended) A cable bushing according to claim 3, wherein said sealing means comprises, between said individually movable pieces of said first compression part and said longitudinally-facing individually movable pieces of said second compression part, respective movable portions.

5. (Original) A cable bushing according to claim 2, wherein said first and second compression parts have a circular shape when viewed in said longitudinal direction.

6. (Currently Amended) A cable bushing according to claim 5, wherein each of said individually movable pieces is in the form of a sector of a circle with a truncated point.

7. (Original) A cable bushing according to claim 2, wherein said first and second compression parts have a rectangular shape when viewed in the said longitudinal direction.

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8. (Currently Amended) A cable bushing according to claim 2, wherein each of said individually movable pieces is secured in said respective compression part by clip-fastening means in the form of lugs and concavities.

9. (Currently Amended) A cable bushing according claim 2, wherein each of said individually movable pieces is pivotally mounted in said respective compression part.

10. (Original) A cable bushing according to claim 2, wherein said openings are circular and comprise inwardly directed leaves for gripping cables that pass through said openings.

11. (Original) A cable bushing according to claim 2, further comprising at least one longitudinal rod connecting said first compression part to said second compression part.

12. (Original) A cable bushing according to claim 11, wherein said longitudinal rod has an angular cross section and is inserted in corresponding angular orifices said first and second compression parts.

13. (Original) A cable bushing according to claim 1, wherein said sealing means is compressed by movement of said first compression part in said longitudinal direction towards said second compression part.

14. (Original) A cable bushing according to claim 1, wherein said sealing means comprises a gel.

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15. (Original) A cable bushing according to claim 2, wherein each of said compression parts comprises four of said openings and four of said movable pieces.

16. (Original) A protective sleeve for a cable splice, in combination with a cable bushing according to claim 1, wherein said bushing is mounted in said sleeve.

17. (Original) A sleeve according to claim 16, in combination with a second cable bushing according to claim 1 and a linkage passing both through said first and second compression parts of each of said bushings and serving to maintain the distance between said cable bushings.

18. (Currently Amended) A cable bushing intended to close off, in a sealed way, a space around a plurality of cables within a sleeve having a first side and a second side, said bushing comprising:

 a first compression part intended to be positioned towards the first side of the sleeve;

 a second compression part, offset in a longitudinal direction from the first compression part and intended to be positioned toward the second side of the sleeve;

 a plurality of openings in said first compression part and a plurality of corresponding openings in said second compression part, each of said openings in said first compression part being intended, together with said corresponding openings in said second compression part, for a respective cable to pass through;

 a portion of gel between said first compression part and said second compression part;
and

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compression means for compressing said first compression part and said second compression part towards one another in the longitudinal direction to compress said gel;

wherein said first compression part and said second compression part each comprise, ~~for each of said openings therein, a respective~~ a separately moveable piece associated with each single respective opening therein, that is wherein each separately moveable piece is movable to provide access individually to ~~each of said~~ single respective openings.

19. (Currently Amended) A cable bushing according to claim 18, wherein each of said individually movable pieces of said first compression part lies longitudinally facing a respective individually movable piece of said second compression part.

20. (Currently Amended) A cable bushing according to claim 18, wherein said portion of gel comprises, between said individually movable pieces of said first compression part and said longitudinally-facing individually movable pieces of said second compression part, a plurality of respective movable portions of said gel.

21. (Original) A cable bushing according claim 18, wherein said first and second compression parts have a circular shape when viewed in said longitudinal direction.

22. (Original) A protective sleeve for a cable splice, in combination with a cable bushing according to claim 18, wherein said bushing is mounted in said sleeve.

23. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a cable bushing for use in a protective sleeve to provide a plurality of cable openings through which cables can pass into the sleeve, which

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bushing comprises first and second compression parts spaced apart from one another by sealing means whereby movement of the compression parts towards one another compresses the sealing means, the method comprising the steps of:

(i) providing a central bushing piece and a plurality of movable bushing pieces each of which bushing pieces comprises a respective portion of the first and second compression parts and of the sealing means; and

(ii) locating the movable bushing pieces on the central bushing piece to form the cable bushing, wherein each movable bushing piece is co-operable with the central bushing piece to form a respective one of the said cable openings and is movable away therefrom to provide access to that cable opening individually.

24. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 23, further including the steps of:

(iii) positioning at least one cable so that it is located in a respective one of the said cable openings when the respective movable bushing piece is located on the central bushing piece; and

(iv) moving the first and second compression parts towards one another to compress the sealing means.

25. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 24, further including the steps of:

(v) subsequently moving the first and second compression parts away from one another; and then

(vi) moving one of the movable bushing pieces away from the central bushing piece to provide individual access to a cable in the respective cable opening.

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26. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 25, including the further step of:

(vii) subsequently relocating the said one movable bushing piece on the central bushing piece, and moving the first and second compression parts towards one another to recompress the sealing means.